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Substance Abuse Update

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Focus on Prevention

- *DoD Prevention, Safety and Health Promotion Council (PSHPC)*
  - *Chaired by AF/SG; includes senior decision makers in DoD (HA), VA, individual service SGs*
  - *Charter: Advance safety and health promotion in peacetime and during contingency operations*
  - *Sub-committee: Alcohol Abuse, Tobacco Use Reduction Committee (AATURC)*
  - *PSHPC approved alcohol abuse prevention strategic plan in 1999*
    - *Primary goal: reduce alcohol abuse across total force 5% per year*

DoD Alcohol Abuse Reduction Initiative

- Alcohol Abuse, Tobacco Use Reduction Committee
  - ***Cross-Service, Multi-functional***
    - ***Identify high risk groups for early intervention***
    - ***Assess content of Basic, Technical and PME for targeted education programs***
    - ***Assess unit level alcohol abuse prevention programs***
    - ***Develop baseline for assessing prevention efforts***
    - ***Increase command awareness***
    - ***Deglamorize alcohol use***
    - ***Assess pricing practices***
    - ***Assess routine screening processes for alcohol abuse***
    - ***Assess service programs for early intervention and rehabilitation***
    - ***Evaluate best practices***

Development of Prevention and Early Intervention Modules

- Stronger Health through Abuse Reduction and Prevention (SHARP)
- Adapting proven techniques from civilian sector
  - ***Motivational Enhancement, Guided Self-Change***
- Population Health & Prevention perspectives
  - ***Population screening***
  - ***Universal Intervention for all (with control group)***
  - ***Targeted Intervention for high risk (with control group)***
- Desired outcomes
  - ***Field standardized empirically-based prevention program acceptable to all stakeholders, reduce problem drinking***

Re-engineering Substance Abuse Education

- Empirically-based screening and feedback
- USAFA
- Sheppard
- Learning lessons re: implementing SHARP procedures in real-world environments
  - ***Confidentiality (prevention, NOT referral)***
  - ***Linkages with ADAPT program & other base agencies***
  - ***Leadership buy-in and commitment***
  - ***Importance of training to obtain counselor acceptance***
- Institutionalizing processes
  - ***Standardizing training for Certified Counselors & providers***

Multi-Level Program Evaluation Resources

- Alcohol and Drug Abuse Data System (ADADS)
- Substance Use Assessment Tool (SUAT)
  - ***Increase the efficiency and effectiveness of assessment process***
    - Provide a standardized automated assessment tool that is easy to use by patients and providers
    - Decrease redundancy of effort (e.g., include ADADS data elements)
    - Decrease variability
  - ***Improve awareness interventions***
    - Offer individually targeted interventions
  - ***Improve prevention efforts***
    - Collect centralized clinical data for better targeting
- Adverse Alcohol Event tracking

Inter-Service Collaboration

- Research
- Program Development
- Program Evaluation
- Marketing
- Training Resources & Opportunities

DoD Substance Abuse Research Initiatives

- Motivational Interviewing Training Research
  - ***Training to Enhance Airmen's Motivation (TEAM)***
    - ***Assesses effectiveness of various training modalities***
  - ***Marine Corps Study***
    - ***Enhancing Supervisors role in reducing problem drinking***
- Alcohol Abuse & Dependence Among Military Recruits
  - ***Assesses impact of military culture in problem drinking***